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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In re application of: deHeer et al.

Attorney Docket No.: GDT1P001

Application No.: 09/626,347

Examiner: Alford W. Kindred

Filed: July 26, 2000

Group: 2172

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2003

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR CATALOG DATA CAPTURE, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION
Technology Center 2100

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313 - 1450 on August 6, 2003.

Signed: Tiffany Bell

Tiffany Bell

AMENDMENT AMail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 6, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Atty Dkt: GDT1P001
Application No: 09/626,347

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Please AMEND the claims as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) A data structure suitable for use in collecting, distributing or storing product data for use in a catalog, the data structure being based on a data model having one or more classes, wherein each of the classes has one or more associated categories, the data structure being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising:

at least one class definition, each class definition being arranged to identify one or more associated categories;

a plurality of category definitions, each category definition being arranged to identify an associated attribute group; and

a plurality of attribute group definitions, each attribute group definition being arranged to identify one or more attributes that are associated with the attribute group, each attribute having an associated possible value list that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute for a product being classified according to the data model.

2. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 1, further including a plurality of possible unit lists, each possible unit list being arranged to identify units that are selectable as units for an associated one of the attributes for the product being classified according to the data model.

3. (Original) The data structure as recited in claim 2, wherein each one of the values in the possible value list is combined with each one of the units in the associated possible unit list for one of the attributes to create a possible value-unit combination, and wherein each possible value-unit combination is assigned a normalized value.

4. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 1, wherein each attribute is associated with a multi-value indicator that indicates that more than one of the values in the associated possible value list are selectable as values for the associated attribute for a product being classified according to the data model when the multi-value indicator is in a predefined state.

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5. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the attributes is associated with a data capture priority indicator that assigns priorities to at least some of the one or more attributes for capture of product data for the attributes in accordance with the assigned priorities.

6. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 1, further including:

a possible countries table specifying one or more countries that are selectable as countries for which a product being classified according to the data model is adapted for sale.

7. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 1, further including:

a possible compatibility table including one or more platforms that are selectable as platforms that are compatible with a specific product being classified according to the data model.

8. (Currently Amended) A data structure suitable for use in collecting, distributing, or storing product data for a plurality of products, the product data being suitable for use in a catalog, the products being classified according to a data model having one or more classes, wherein each of the classes is arranged to identify one or more associated categories and each of the categories is arranged to identify an associated attribute group having one or more attributes, each attribute having an associated possible value list that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute for a product classified according to the data model, the data structure being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising:

a plurality of system SKUs, each system SKU being arranged to identify one of the plurality of products;

a plurality of manufacturer SKUs, each manufacturer SKU being associated with one of the plurality of system SKUs; and

an attribute table in which selected attributes for each of the products are stored, each of the selected attributes being identified by the ~~corresponding~~-system SKU corresponding to the product classified according to the data model and having at least one of the values from ~~in~~ the associated possible value list.

AI 9. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, wherein each attribute has an associated possible unit list that identifies units that are selectable as units for the associated attribute of a product being classified according to the data model, wherein at least some of the selected attributes in the attribute table have an associated one of the units in the associated possible unit list, wherein each attribute value and associated unit is assigned a normalized value.

10. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a customer mapping table that maps each system SKU to a customer SKU assigned to the corresponding product by a particular customer to which product data is to be provided.

11. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a category identifier associated with each one of the plurality of products classified according to the data model, the category identifier being arranged to identify the category associated with the corresponding product.

12. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a manufacturer product description associated with each one of the plurality of products classified according to the data model, the manufacturer product description describing standard features of the associated product.

13. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

an image table including a link to one or more images illustrating the plurality of products classified according to the data model.

14. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

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a marketing description for selected ones of the plurality of products classified according to the data model.

15. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a country table specifying one or more countries for which each product classified according to the data model is adapted for sale.

16. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a related products table that indicates one or more related products associated with each one of the plurality of products classified according to the data model.

17. (Currently Amended) The data structure as recited in claim 8, further including:

a product compatibility table including platform compatibility information associated with each product classified according to the data model.
